More About the Season of 1931

Answers to Colonel Morley’s questionnaire requesting experiences of greenkeepers during the past summer

No Brown Patch at Los Altos

By TOM NICOLL

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In answer to questionnaire of September 8, I will give my experience.

One—I have never had webworms.

Two—My greens were not affected with brown patch. I use no preventatives. I depend mostly on compost and good top soil for fertilizers, the compost being generally three years old and never less than two.

I have a regular schedule, aerating and top dressing my greens regularly April and September each year. The spring dressing is composed of good screened top soil, which has been cultivated all the previous summer, mixed with twenty pounds of 8-5-2 commercial fertilizer, made up to my order, for each green.

In September the greens are raked again and raked hard, up and down and across, cut and dressed with compost at the rate of about three-quarters of a yard to one hundred square yards. This is all the fertilizer I use, but I always keep a little sulphate of ammonia on hand to use as a stimulant if required. I may add that I didn’t use half a ton of this or any other stimulant all last year.

Three—Yes.

Four—I certainly do think that the injudicious and constant use of highly nitrogenous stimulants alone, makes the greens more susceptible to disease, by acting on the soil as drugs on the body of a human addict, sapping its vitality and leaving it an easy prey to disease.

Only once during my over twenty years’ experience as a greenkeeper have I had a sign of brown patch on my own greens, a very slight attack con-